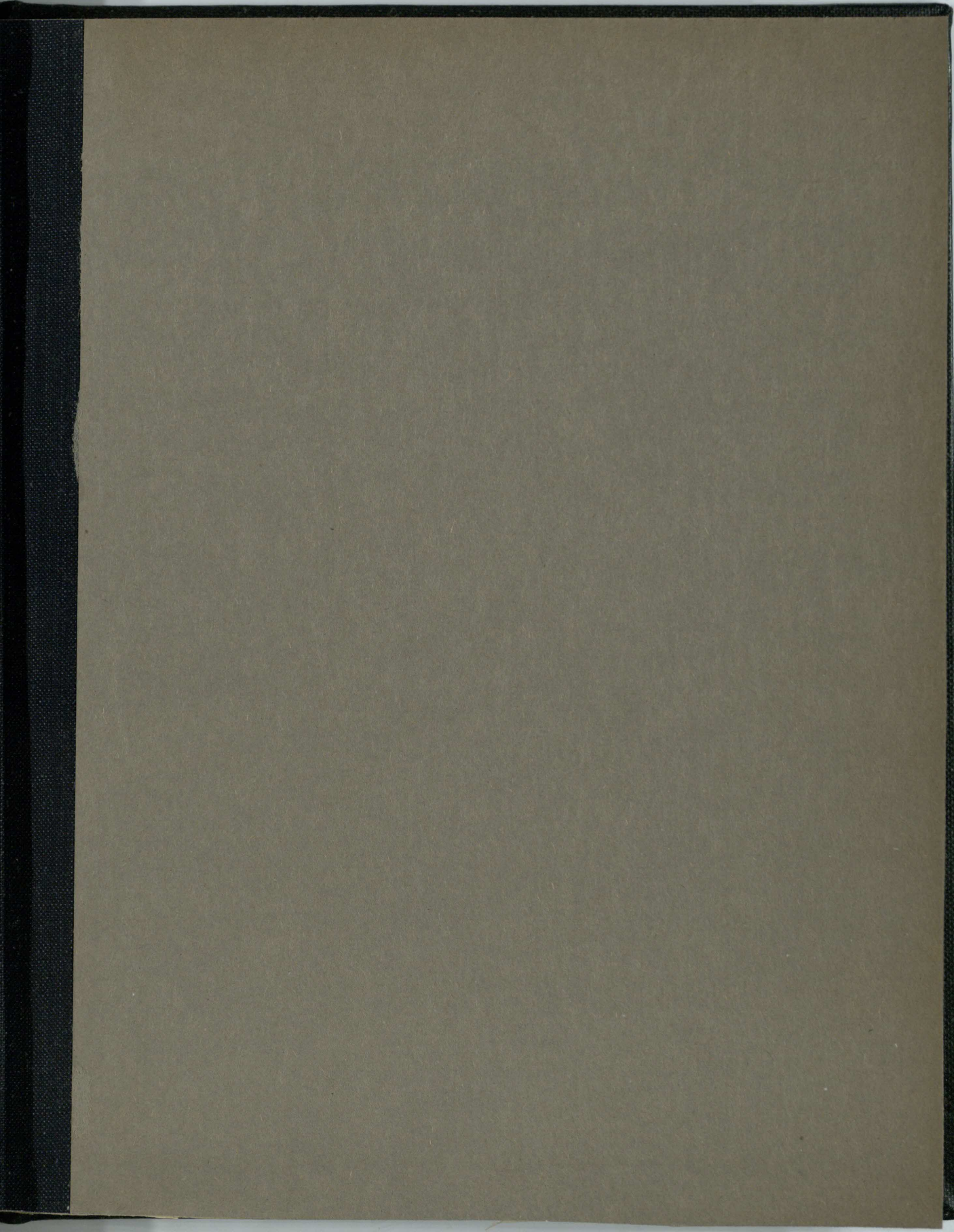
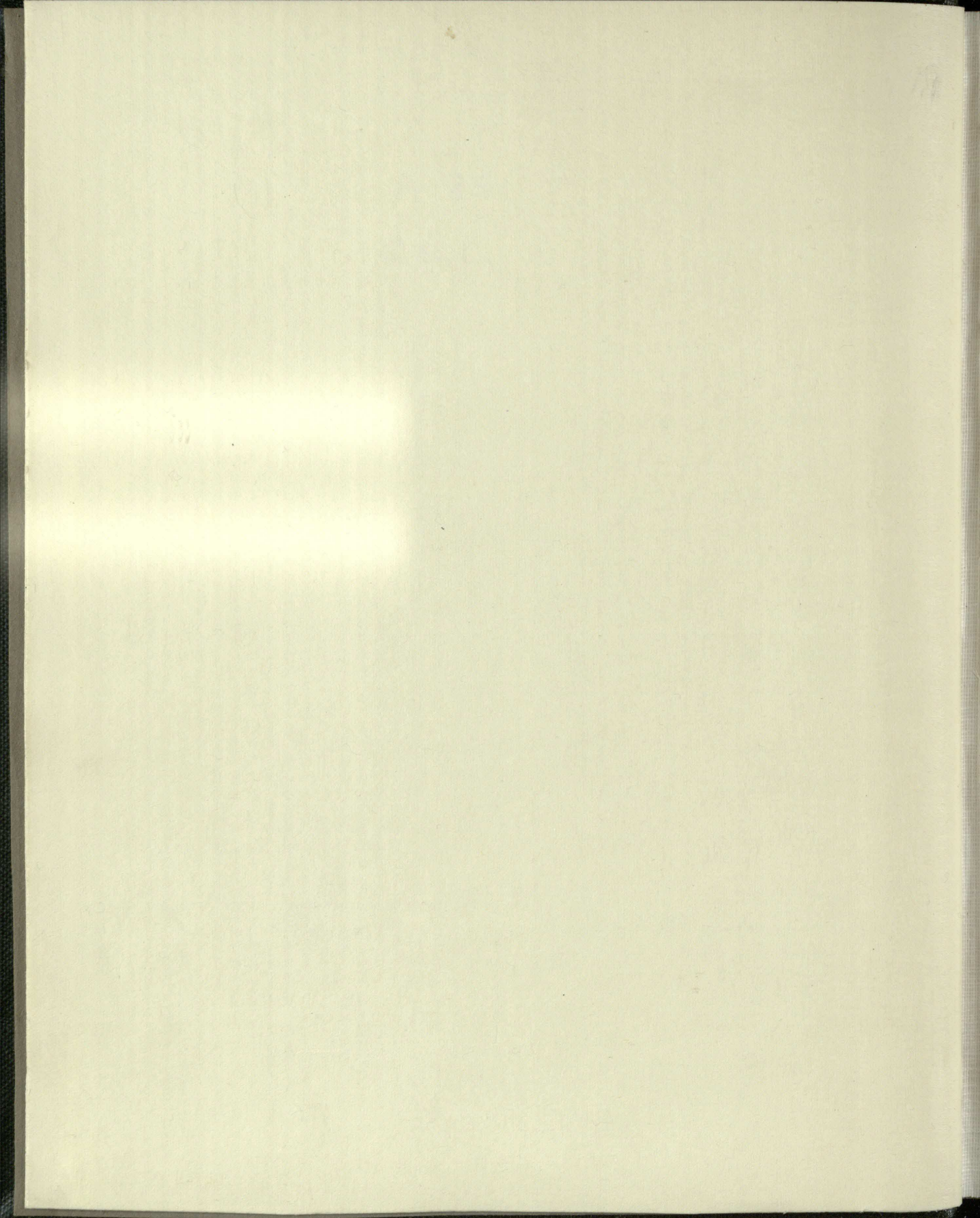




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Gardens of Light and Shade.





Gardens of Light and Shade.

BY
G. S. C.

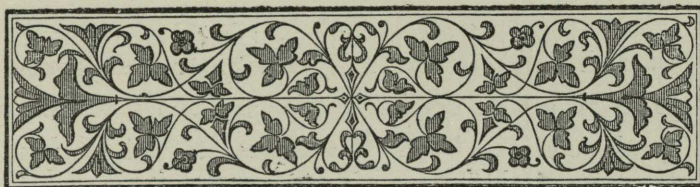
'The art of laying out gardens consists in an endeavour to combine cheerfulness of aspect, luxuriance of growth, shade, solitude, and repose, in such a manner that the senses may be deluded by an imitation of rural nature.'—LIENTSCHEN.

CHEAP EDITION.

LONDON :
ELLIOT STOCK, 62, PATERNOSTER ROW, E.C.
1887.



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P R E F A C E.

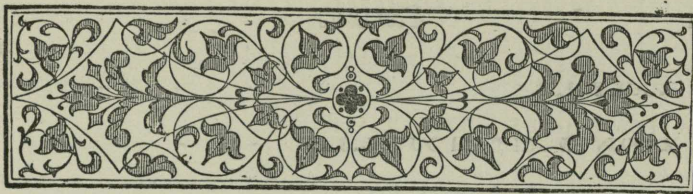
IN the following pages, reprinted in chief part from a popular journal, the writer seeks to show how insignificant plots of ground may be made to yield something in perennial beauty, and it is precisely because they deal with gardens measured by feet rather than by acres, that they address themselves to a numerous class.

Many valuable books on gardening exist, but they usually suppose or would inculcate a botanical, or, at any rate a technical, knowledge which not one in a hundred householders possesses, or has the leisure and inclination to acquire. All the writer essays to exhibit is the advantage of an arrangement formed on nature's plan, similar, let us say, to such displays as may be seen in some old-fashioned gardens of the least formal kind, and rendered in miniature to suit the conditions of space.

With such information as is here given, supplemented perhaps in regard to details of planting and treatment by some good gardening book, he ventures to think that many suburban plots now given over to nine months' barrenness may be made pleasing *all the year round*, and at little cost.

To this modest programme the argument and its application are limited ; such short lists of trees and plants as are given contain none but kinds inexpensive and easily obtained, yet ample in number and variety for the simple purpose in view.

The illustrations are of gardens in the sixth year of their existence, the ground they occupy having been previously bare meadow. The gardens contain nothing but what is included in the appended lists. Photography has been employed in order to ensure truth.



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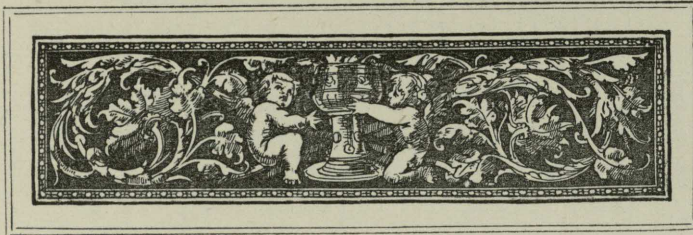
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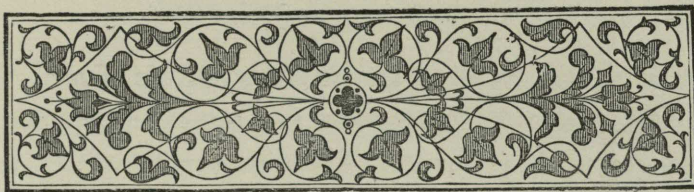
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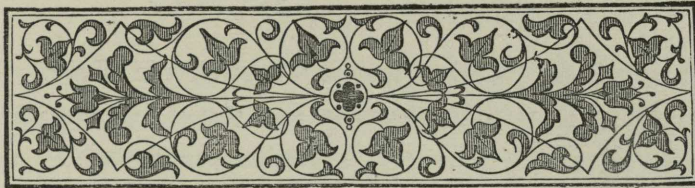
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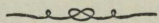
The Argument

The Author gladly acknowledges his indebtedness to the Proprietor of "GARDENING ILLUSTRATED," wherein some portions of the matter contained in these pages appeared, and for his courtesy in providing the blocks from which the ground-plans are printed.

were pent-up streets in town and city, where the surroundings of a leafy porch and rose-clad walls were as unattainable as the garden of Eden itself, and where such knowledge and memory as the inhabitants had of tree and flower were either associated with gala-days and holidays, or belonged to the history of a youthful and long-put-off rusticity. But in the times we are thinking of, this much, at least, was certain,



The Argument.



OLD-FASHIONED GARDENS.

IN books which treat of the gardens of a past generation we have evidences of the greater roominess and freedom of a period when the population of our island was yet sparse, and the disciples of Malthus, though they might find reason for dismal forebodings, were at least spared the sad satisfaction of seeing their apprehensions realized.

Of course, even in those days, and long before them, there were pent-up streets in town and city, where the surroundings of a leafy porch and rose-clad walls were as unattainable as the garden of Eden itself, and where such knowledge and memory as the inhabitants had of tree and flower were either associated with gala-days and holidays, or belonged to the history of a youthful and long-put-off rusticity. But in the times we are thinking of, this much, at least, was certain,

that what was called a garden deserved the name. The word had no such questionable and misleading application as too often obtains now. A garden was something more than an oblong court, blazing for three short months of summer with scarlet, and yellow, and blue, and for the remainder of the year a grim and leafless void. It was, above all things, a garden of greenery. It had its lawns, its Grass alleys, its Yews, its Ivies, and its Box-edgings; and if the perennial border-plants, which came forth each in its turn to help deck the seasons, were somewhat soberer in hue and habit than the gay sojourners of to-day, they possessed a quiet beauty of their own, which it is pleasing to know has recently received a measure of resuscitated recognition.

An old-fashioned garden has something more to recommend it than the promptings of a wistful sentiment. From its *pot-pourri* of aromatic shrubs, its Rosemaries, its Lavenders, and Sweet Briers—from its Lilies, its Carnations, and its Jessamines, rises a fragrance not to be gainsaid, and which, though to some of us it be heavy with mystic memories, and on that account the sweeter, appeals scarcely less potently to the novice and the dunce. For in its shady walks and lambent lawns, its leafy arbours and over-arching branches, its green alleys and dewy nooks, we all alike recognise a

combination of charms like the gift of a bountiful nature. It is not our admiration which is kindled so much as our sense of enjoyment. We appreciate the gorgeous colouring of the modern parterre, but we reserve our heart's affection for the garden which endures.

When a child is shown a beautiful flower its not unfrequent inquiry is—‘Has it a root?’ and then—‘Will it grow?’ This preference for something not too evanescent and fragile, which may be looked for to stay with us, to withstand as long as may be the influences of the changeful seasons, and to reproduce again and again the beauties which now attract us, is the homage we consciously or unconsciously pay to the belief in our own immortality, and to the part we shall bear in a greater hereafter.

In an old-fashioned garden we perceive the conditions which appeal intuitively to our sympathies. The trees and plants are at home there. There is no suspicion of their having been provided for our coming; there is no presentiment of their disappearance when we have gone. We do not detect beneath the leaves the record of nine months’ barrenness; these are perennial charms varying as befits the occasion, but never absent—an old-fashioned garden is a garden always.

If for no other reason than this, an old-fashioned garden

is to be loved and imitated. It is a lasting instead of a transient delight. It appeals not to our fancy but to our heart; it is our companion and constant friend. What affection can we bestow upon plants which have been bought in full bloom at so much a dozen, are 'bedded out' in June, and will be consigned—bloated and overblown—to the rubbish-heap in September?

How differently do we regard the beauties whose homes have been made about us, whose first buds we have welcomed, and whose blossoms have seemed like a tribute to our solicitude and care, which, when their errand is over, sleep peacefully in the borders until returning spring summons them anew! And if this be the case with flowers, how much more is it true of the trees and shrubs, whose cultivation enters so largely into old-fashioned gardening? Their forms are visible to us all the year through; if deciduous, every phase of their annual life is interesting, and not least the period of their repose; if evergreen, they are most beautiful when all else is bare. Then it is they come forth in sheen of leaf and wealth of berry to redeem the landscape and to deck winter's brow with bays which proclaim that poetry yet lives.

Let us take a walk in a garden such as we have in mind. It is a forenoon late in July. The house about which our

garden spreads is not an ambitious structure. It is but one story in height, and looks plain, middle-class, and unobtrusive. If it were not for the two urns upon the parapet of the porch, of some pretensions, we might say the building was without ornament. What splendour of red brick it may have boasted is now dulled by a century's weather. The chimneys, which doubtless once smoked, we would fain believe have been cured of their disorder, for the curtains about the upper windows are white as snow. The windows themselves have been modernized; the thick woodwork and small panes have given place to more convenient if less picturesque sashes glazed with plate glass. A perpendicular trellis covers a portion of the walls, and a *Magnolia grandiflora*, after climbing to the highest bar, has now wound its arms about the chimney-stack and garnishes the scarred and crumbling brickwork with its chaste and splendid blossoms.

A notable feature of the house is that all the chief rooms look gardenwards. The bow-window in shadow beside the screen of Portugal laurels marks the dining-room, and above it is the best bed-chamber. The drawing-room has been furnished with casements, and beyond the garden door a pair of narrow windows heavily robed in white Jessamine, now in full bloom, and miniature Ivies mark that sanctum

sanctissimum—the study. Looking from any one of the windows we have a vista of delicious and various greenery, broken with far-reaching recesses filled with golden sunshine, here and there snatches of yellow walks, mottled with shadow, and beyond all a glimpse of the dull red boundary wall, which we instinctively associate with the fragrance of Nectarine and Peach, though the time is not quite yet. In the foreground a Copper Beech spreads its branches protectively above a rustic bench where lie a lady's broad-brimmed hat with a bright ribbon about it, and an open book whose leaves scarcely move in the breath of noon—too drowsy even to turn the page. Beyond, we catch sight of the sturdy stem and compact branches of a Mulberry. For sounds, we have a hum of insects in the air, a twittering of birds under the gables, and occasionally the deep bay of the mastiff, sounding hollow from behind the Ilex which screens the stable-yard.

Crossing the lawn, we startle a pair of thrushes and a blackbird seeking their vermiceous meal in the dew-damp shadows of the Hollies, and above our heads a fly-catcher, which has built among the Vine-leaves on the housewall, swoops upon his tiny quarry. A straight gravelled walk leads forward. It is edged with Box full 6 inches in height, and beyond the Box, broad flower-borders, rendered rich

and solid by occasional density of Bay and Yew, Hemlock, Yellow Holly, and Juniper, with here and there the Syringa or Mock Orange, whose blossoms of surpassing fragrance have now fallen ; Guelder Rose, its leaves bronzing in the sun ; and Laburnum, decked with pendulous seed-pods, turning yellow, as if true to the colour of the blossom. Conspicuous among flowers stand the sturdy Hollyhocks and massive Sunflowers, the scarlet Lychnis and Rockets ; about their feet are huge bunches of red and white Valerian, Snapdragon, and Clove Carnations. The Solomon's Seal has dropped its blossoms long ago, and droops in the shadows ; the bead-like seeds of the Columbine rattle down upon the now decaying leaves of the Pæony ; Nasturtiums trail at intervals, and, as though amorous of the sweet scent they lack, entwine their blossoms above the Lavenders and Sweet Briers. Southernwood, too, grown to the dimensions of shrub, is there ; and Rue, and Thyme, and Rosemary, for our ancestors thought little of gardens which were not scentful, and packed their borders with aromatic plants, as their wives crammed their confections with spices.

In such a garden the hours, like the bees winging their way towards yonder hives, fly freighted with honey, and in the air we breathe we seem to taste both fruit and flowers. For beyond the archway, fragrant with the first bloom of

the tiny White Clematis—sweetest of August blossoms—the great Plums, here of purple and there of gold, festoon the south wall, and, peeping from the curtaining leaves, the downy Peach and smooth-cheeked Nectarine grow mellow in the meridian heat. It is grateful to turn into the shady way where the Apple-branches cluster overhead, and, threading the Filbert grove, to wander back homeward by devious paths. The deep musical voice of the great clock in the hall leisurely tells the hour of noon. Scarcely a leaf moves, the birds have ceased their twittering, the day seems fallen asleep, and there is silence everywhere, unbroken save by the hum of drones.

Or, if instead of warm July it be chill October, when sound and fury are in the air, when the Birches bend low in the angry gale, and the yellow leaves dance upon the lawns—or mid-winter, when the rime is on the leafless trees, and the Pines and Firs show darkly against the red sky, is there nothing interesting and pleasant in the old-fashioned garden? If we inwardly shudder at the thought or give but a hesitating assent to the delights of a winter's walk among its plantations, and find no fragrance in the fallen leaves, then are we no native lovers of a garden, but aliens and pretenders. The garden which fails to inspire affection in every phase of its life is no true garden, or we to whom it appeals are no true lovers.



THE NATURAL IN GARDENING.

IN designing and stocking a garden, extremes of prejudice and fashion, as well as hard-and-fast rules of all kinds, may be avoided with advantage. We want the graceful negligence and wealth of nature, restrained, it is true, but also assisted by such art as we can command. The restraint and assistance must not be manifest, for what is unnatural can have but little real beauty. If we had not to reckon with considerations of space, we should be disposed to say—Free Nature of all restraint ; let her do as she listeth.

The highest skill of the landscape gardener is shown in a faithful representation—we may almost say reproduction—of natural beauty. In a moment of vanity he may assume his best effects to be ideal, but reflection will teach him that where his art excels most his handiwork more nearly approaches Nature's. At his best he imitates most closely,

and he is never really successful but when he presents to us a prospect in which no canon of natural law is obviously violated or overlooked. When our host opens a casement and, stepping upon the terrace beyond, invites us to look upon a miniature panorama of hill and dale, waving wood and glimmering water, we admire it in exact ratio to our appreciation of its veracity. The skill is limited to producing or enforcing familiar effects. The pool below is beautiful chiefly because it satisfies the requirements that we involuntarily insist upon, and which owe their origin to our acquaintance with natural scenery. The process of widening the rill, the digging out of the clay, the planting of the banks, the formation of the island, were works necessary to the production of the beauty aspired to ; but when that beauty is attained, they are lost sight of and hidden as though they never had been ; they have gone their way, and are no more presently accessory to the scene than the navvies and trollies which made havoc with the turf of the water-meadow.

Let us be sure—and although the reflection partakes of the character of a truism, it is one we are not inapt at forgetting—that there is no dreamed-of diversity of landscape, no artful grouping of trees and plants, no clever combination of light and shadow, but it is excelled and brought to

nothingness beside the great achievements of unaided Nature; that at most we are but her humble followers, and that our labours in park and garden are only acceptable in so far as they exhibit our subordination to her teaching and example.

When insisting upon a preference for naturalness over mere artificiality in the treatment of our gardens, we are conscious of the many who are insensible to its charms. To them, the formal is alone the beautiful. Freedom is license, and the standard of excellence they covet for their plants—though happily never quite reached—is that exhibited in the flora of the ecclesiastical metal-worker, or transferred to the wall-papers of æsthetic decorators. Unfortunately it is all too easy to do our gardening in this fashion. A small rectangular piece of ground, such as most of our suburban houses possess, lends itself readily to straight lines, while no effort of taste or workmanship is necessary to the putting in of a row of white or yellow border-plants, and behind them the inevitable scarlet Geranium planted by the score at equal distances with a precision attained by actual measurement, and worthy the best examples of Colewort and Cabbage. Recently, as might have been expected, something of a reaction has set in against the ribbon-gardening, and the carpet-gardening, which has been fashionable for so long a time. Many people who half a dozen years ago limited their list of

plants to Geraniums, Calceolarias, and Lobelias are now among the admirers of herbaceous borders, and, travelling from one extreme to the other, not a few have issued edicts of banishment against the more gorgeous interlopers.

Here they appear to be wrong. Just as it would be but foolish pedantry to exclude from our shrubberies and thickets all but native trees and shrubs, so it is undesirable to rob our borders of the charming effects attainable by a judicious use of fragile and semi-hardy plants, whose bloom or foliage contrasts pleasingly with the more substantial but less brilliant perennials, of which the large majority are no more indigenous to our soil than are the bright visitors a too severe code would condemn. What we contend for is that the garden should exist independently of all that is migratory and ephemeral. By all means let us welcome those beautiful strangers, just as we welcome the swallows or the butterflies. Let them have place and honour, but let not our gardens await their coming, nor vanish with their departure. Let them be like ornaments to a comely woman, garnishing and emphasizing the beauty which would still remain though all adventitious aid were wanting.

A garden arranged after Nature has many recommendations. It is an economical garden. When once it is planted it calls for no more annual outlay upon it than the means

of its possessor allow or his taste decrees. Year by year, though it be almost untended, it will grow in beauty as the trees and shrubs mature. In it, as in a mirror, the seasons will be reflected—the tender spring, the leafy summer, the rich autumn, and grim winter, each in turn, and every phase will be interesting. Again, such a garden will supply of its own naturalness the conditions favourable to the growth and perfection of many charming plants. Upon the shady borders where the leaves fall thickly and the ground Ivies spread a variegated carpet during winter, spring will marshal her earliest blossoms. There will flourish the *Ranunculus* and the Primrose, the beautiful little *Scilla siberica*, and, succeeding them, the Bluebell and the Anemone, the Arum and the Periwinkle, with other shade-loving flowers, among the most beautiful and interesting of all kinds.

Nor is the value of shady borders limited to the flowers which show to greater advantage there. The shadows of a garden are among its most bewitching resources, for they help to fashion its smiles. A garden without leafy ways and shady intricacies of bough and blossom, and upon whose trim lawns the shadows of trees never fall in sunlight or moonlight, can make no pretence to beauty. All the pleasing accessories of a garden will be absent. Not thence will swell the tuneful insect chorus, the buzz of bees, or the

trill of birds. It would almost appear as if birds were quick to appreciate the natural in gardens, and to detect blunders and solecisms. If we would have the thrush and the black-bird, the finches and the linnet to make their homes about us, to charm us with their melodies, and to cheer us with their life and motion, we must not fright them by startling improprieties of taste and method. Our art must not be so self-assertive as to demonstrate that our garden is unreal. Rather let us be solicitous, like many of our best workers in all crafts, to labour hard, but to labour unobserved. In this matter we cannot afford to be severely logical. A garden planted with trees, and shrubs, and flowers, then left to itself, would run riot apace, and become a jungle or a wilderness. But if we are no more illogical and inconsistent than Nature herself, no one has a right to complain. In truth, Nature is the most real of artists, because with her art is inborn. In her wildest retreats we come across such pictures as never mind of man conceived, and, strange to say, such effects and such methods of exhibiting them as never mind of man contrived.





SPARE THE TREES.

It is only here and there, where an owner or occupier carries out or actually superintends the disposition of his garden, that we witness an escape from the thralldom of the professional tyrant. What the average gardener's notion is of the purpose comprehended in a garden may be at best conjectured. We know that he is of opinion a tree is a thing to be hacked, mutilated ; not seldom to be got rid of. A tree is always in his way, or he supposes it in the way of something else. Either something won't grow under it, or something is 'drawn up' too quickly, or its 'drip' kills something. It never seems to occur to the gardening mind that it would be well to adapt the minor conditions to the major. If it be desirable that the ground round about a tree should be planted, the gardener should be at the pains to discover what will best thrive there. Happily, Nature's

gifts are various, and there are plenty of shade-loving plants with which to garnish even the darkest places, while so long as Ivies and Ferns are attainable there can be no sort of excuse for barrenness. To uproot a graceful tree because a few square yards of Grass are injured by it appears a monstrous illustration of a faculty for reasoning backwards; yet how often has a gardener gained his point upon no better plea! It once cost the writer a considerable expenditure of time and patience to save a Hawthorn from the ruthless hatchets of the men employed. Their contempt for a Hawthorn, apparently only because it was a Hawthorn, was immeasurable. Yet, besides being a particularly well-grown bush of its kind, it answered a definite and obvious purpose by supplying screen and shelter just where they were wanted, and in a degree a newly-planted shrub of any kind could not have attained to except after years of favourable growth. A glorious sweet Almond tree, well known through the county in which it stood, was removed for no more cogent reason than that 'it harboured the birds'!

It is surpassing strange that men who live among trees and plants should be so unsympathetic in regard to them. It is taught, in the experience of most people, that the gardener is the very last person to whom to entrust the safety of the trees, and there are few lovers of leafage who,

however blind their faith in his ability, would concede over-much to his taste. With a view to demonstrate this curious perversity, a well-known and undeniably clever arboriculturist was invited to advise concerning a small but singularly attractive garden in his neighbourhood. This garden had been planned with consummate taste and judgment, and was now arriving at maturity. It seemed to supply an apt illustration of the most naturally artistic way of dealing with a small plot of ground. Its meagre proportions were hidden in the elegance of its outlines, and not one in a hundred who looked from the windows upon it would have guessed its real dimensions. The gracefully winding path was flanked by miniature lawns, in their turn hedged about by luxuriant shrubberies, in which Box and Holly, Bay, Hemlock, and Rhododendron, Guelder Rose, and Lilac, with many others, all found a place, while here and there Pines and Spruce Firs, with an occasional Cedrus, rose from the undergrowth, and mingled their branches with the soft leafage of White Poplar and Silver Birches. The result was exactly as anticipated. The great man stood for a moment in the porch, looked contemptuously at the intricacies of Rose and Jessamine about it, shook his head, and slowly muttered, 'Oh, there's a deal of *grubbing up* wanted here!'

If we have the courage to take such giants of knowledge

to task, we are told that what they object to is 'overcrowding.' A tangle of rich and varied foliage, which appears to less orthodox minds beautiful and a desirable result of planting, is to them an abomination. They want so many feet of space left between the trees and shrubs when they are put in, and directly the plants begin to grow, a considerable number of them must be grubbed up or mutilated. It appears a not very wise contention that, because a quarter of a century hence the branches of a tree we are planting may reach 20 feet from its trunk every way, we are therefore to leave all that area unoccupied meanwhile. Not all of us can afford to defer our enjoyment for twenty years. Moreover, it is this 'crowding up' in Nature, this mingling of tree with tree, this piling up of hill upon hill, rock upon rock, that give her pictures their greatest charm. A mountain divested of its 'shoulders' and buttresses of hills, rising sheer from the plain like a sugar-loaf from a table, might be remarkable, but could scarcely appear beautiful. Or let us suppose a forest in which all the trees were equidistant—where no one branch overlapped another—where there was no undergrowth. We do not underrate the grandeur of a specimen tree standing alone in a plenitude of space, but in dealing with gardens of such dimensions as we now treat of, a far more pleasing result is obtained by the interlacing of

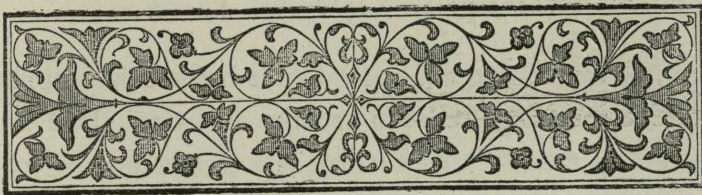
various growths than in the possession of a solitary tree, even though it could be put there ready grown. The knowledge that is wanted is of judicious mingling. We want early effect, too, and this can often be obtained by tasteful grouping, where a single tree or shrub would be insufficient for a decade to come.

When a tree, large or small, is standing upon a plot of garden-ground, the first consideration should be how to spare it and enjoy it. If the house is not yet built, let the tree be remembered in the design. Architects would object to this upon principle. Nobody likes to labour under restrictions, and architects usually refuse to look beyond their plans, which are drawn as though the margin of their paper represented space infinite and unoccupied. Yet if we remember how much more easy it is to produce a house than a fine tree, how impossible indeed it is to reinstate a tree once destroyed, and how greatly the surroundings of a house affect its beauty and the comfort of its inhabitants, we shall no longer deem attention to such matters unnecessary.

How many dwellers in suburban villas might well pine for the beautiful trees which would have afforded them grateful shelter, and would have supplied an element of loveliness to surroundings now irretrievably mean and ugly,

yet were sacrificed in sheer wantonness, or, at best, for the value of their timber! The destruction cannot even be explained by greed, for so great and widespread is the love for trees that a house with a garden gifted in greenery will always command a higher rent than a similar house with a treeless plot. Speculative builders might find it advantageous to regard a living tree as possessing a higher marketable value than its dead trunk, and the same observation would apply in still greater degree to shrubs and bushes—often the denizens of a partitioned, old-fashioned garden, and capable of doing great things towards relieving the desolation of a ‘new neighbourhood.’

In the suburbs of London there is a continuous destruction of beautiful trees which is truly deplorable, and ought to be made legally, as it is already morally, criminal. Possibly, in generations to come, the conservatism whose first principle is now embodied in a defence of the rights of individual owners, will recognise in its greater enlightenment the property all mankind may claim in a scene of natural beauty, and will be as eager to safeguard a lovely landscape, an interesting panorama, or even a notable tree, as it is now anxious to enforce the abstract doctrine that a man may do what he will with his own.



The Application.

GARDEN GROUND.

NOWADAYS, when the creation of ground-rents is the first motive of the suburban proprietor, large numbers of tenements are erected with a notable disregard of their surroundings ; such trees, shrubs, or bushes as are upon the ground are ruthlessly uprooted, and in mercy to the weeds, which might otherwise essay a blighted existence, it were well if the miserable yard in rear of these 'attractive' residences were asphalted and made over to barrenness for ever.

But while it would be hopeless to attempt to render picturesque spaces scarcely the size of an ordinary room and encumbered with a scullery door, a knife-cleaning shed and a water-butt, it is surprising to those who have never made the trial how pleasing an effect may be produced by the judicious arrangement and planting of very limited areas.

Much, of course, depends upon what is beyond the boundary. If the surroundings be open and the air sweet, there is no reason why a healthy little shrubbery should not be maintained about the most modest establishment, securing a measure of privacy and providing something green and pleasant for the eye to rest upon all the year round. But if scullery open on scullery, chimney gaze on chimney, and the ground be ever in shadow, the case is different. It is useless to waste time in attempts to coax plants to live out a blighted existence. Human life, blighted or otherwise, according to our code of ethics, is sacred, and we must be at every effort to preserve it—no matter at what cost to the sufferer ; but a broken and leafless plant pining for sunshine and fresh air is as melancholy a spectacle as a caged bird, and it is best to have done with it at once. Transplant it if you can to liberty and real life ; but if it be too old of limb and tenacious of fibre, hew it down and put a paving-stone over its root, lest it send forth ghostly shoots, and make you timorous by night as you look across the shadows of the chimney-pots.

In suburban districts it is common now to find terraces of houses built back to back upon parallel roads. The width of garden-ground allotted to each is, perhaps, no more than 20 feet, corresponding, of course, with the frontage of the

house. The depth may be 50 feet or even 100 feet. Let us suppose it to be 75 feet. The space intervening between the two rows of houses is then 150 feet, and if there be twenty houses in each row, we have an open space of 400 feet by 150 feet. This extent of ground is capable of being turned to very good account ; but just as our streets, for want of a general design, are disfigured by incongruities of architecture and the interposition of mean or ruined buildings, so in a series of ' gardens ' the most conspicuous effect produced is that of a patchy ugliness.

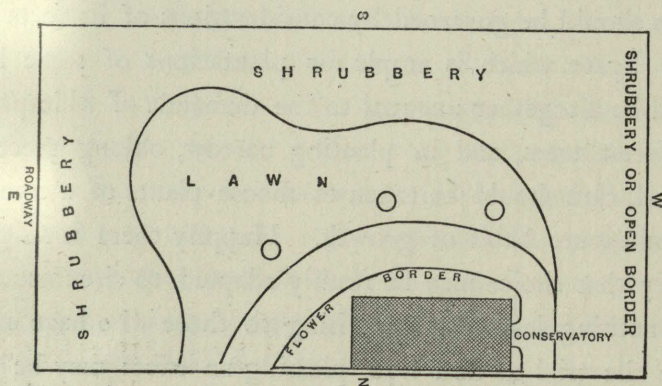
Looking from an upper window we perceive a double row of plots divided by dwarf walls or wooden fences. Here and there it is possible that an individual garden has been designed with taste, but what beauty it boasts is marred for want of a suitable setting. The environments given over to brickbats, swings, clothes-props, or perhaps to that terrible *bête noire*, a black Poplar, loom through the foliage, too thin to hide so great barrenness, and it is easy to understand that no sort of treatment will render one of these small plots wholly independent of the contiguous premises. Now, something in the nature of a general design for planting, carried out when the houses are built, would remedy all this ugliness, and might be made to increase the privacy that is so dear to our insular notions, but

which is very poorly attained under existing conditions. The possession of only a moderate amount of skill, and but a trifling expenditure of money, would be necessary to provide a pleasing *coup d'œil* from every point of view, and to hide under a graceful garb of leafage the unavoidable boundary fences. Looked at as a whole, the space between the houses would appear as a miniature park, and this result might be achieved without laying down any too arbitrary rule of uniformity in regard to the disposition of the several plots—indeed, absolute uniformity would only prove a disadvantage. No doubt such a method of treatment would be adverse to the petty utilitarianism which exacts tribute of Potato and Cabbage from the tiniest area, and draws across the face of the vignette which every such garden should present to the windows a curtain of Runners and Peas. But it cannot be necessary to argue seriously the propriety of growing vegetables in plots such as we now contemplate. A kitchen-garden in its proper place is a thing of interest, and is by no means devoid of grace and poetry. Fruit, if you will, of certain kinds, may peep in at the windows ; Marrow bine or a Rhubarb plant may fill a corner ; a Tomato may cover a trellis ; even Carrots and Parsnips, Beet and Chicory, may be disposed about a flower-border ; but all things grown in drills and rows are nothing but abominations when

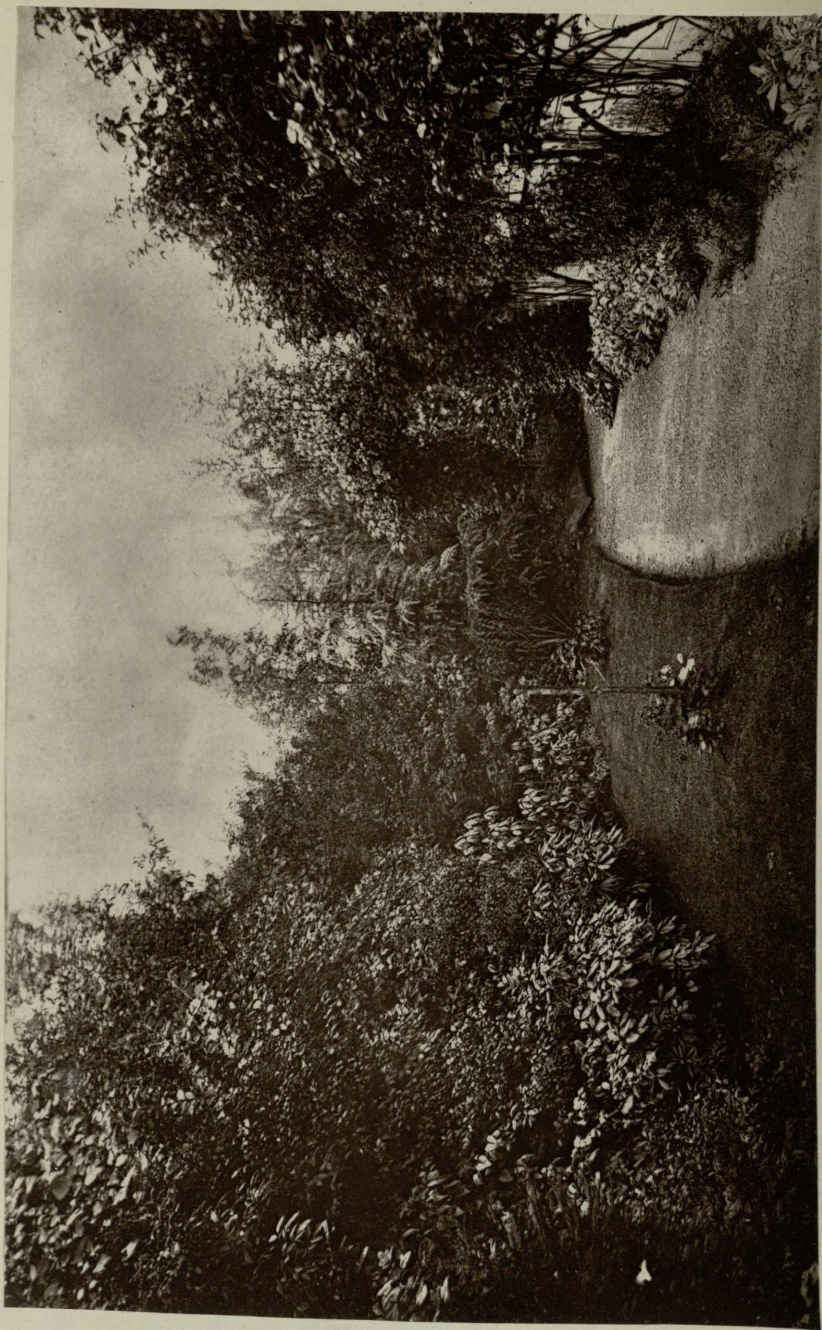
obtruded upon the eye, which craves, or ought to crave, a soft picture of shadow and sunshine, curving lines, and ever-changing effects. Of course, the ground attached to terrace-houses offers the least opportunity for tasteful arrangement. The long, unbroken lines of houses are in themselves fatal to absolute beauty. But there are thousands of gardens, large and small, round about detached and semi-detached houses, where the rules for the natural in gardening might be applied with satisfaction. Whether the ground measure a rod or an acre, it is equally necessary that the selection of trees and plants should be governed by considerations of its form and area. Space which is ample for plantations of some kind would be altogether unequal to the demands of widespread-forest trees, and in planting narrow, oblong pieces of ground, care should be taken to choose plants of a compact and miniature habit of growth. Happily there is so great variety that choice may be readily adapted to circumstances. It is nothing less than surprising to those who have never made the trial to find how pleasing an effect may be produced by judicious planting even in such a piece of ground as would be contemptuously dismissed as 'a yard' by those who are fortunate enough to command more spacious premises, or whose opinions are founded upon ambitious reasoning.

Probably few would be found to consider a garden measuring no more than 65 feet by 34 feet worthy of much attention, or capable of being made to illustrate the method of treatment advocated. Such plots exist by thousands, and if laid out at all it is usually to a formal pattern, in which straight paths and a rectangular grass plot pierced with circular flower-beds exhaust the ingenuity of the gardener.

The ground-plan annexed represents a piece of ground of the dimensions stated. It is situated at the side of a



detached villa, and is planted with the trees and shrubs comprised in the following list. The effect, after the lapse of five years, is illustrated in Photograph II.





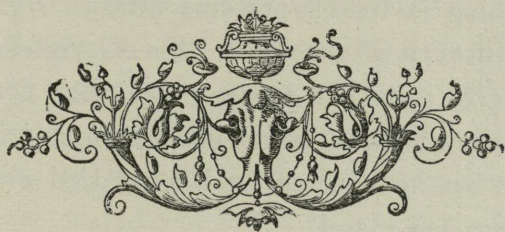
LIST OF TREES AND SHRUBS GROWING IN GARDEN REPRESENTED
IN ILLUSTRATION II.

Number.	Name.	Cost each.	Totals.
		s. d.	£ s. d.
24	Laurels	0 6	0 12 0
2	Portugal Laurels	0 9	0 1 6
1	Cedrus Deodara	3 6	0 3 6
2	Common Yews	1 0	0 2 0
3	Aucubas	0 9	0 2 3
2	Hollies	0 9	0 1 6
1	Scotch Fir	1 0	0 1 0
2	Thujas (Wareana).....	0 9	0 1 6
4	Box (Handsworth)	0 6	0 2 0
1	Cupressus Lawsoniana	1 0	0 1 0
10	Rhododendrons	0 6	0 5 0
4	Privet ovalifolium.....	0 9	0 3 0
3	Common Privet	0 9	0 2 3
3	Variegated Elder	0 9	0 2 3
2	Flowering Currants	1 0	0 2 0
2	Scarlet Thorns	1 0	0 2 0
2	Lilacs.....	0 8	0 1 4
2	Spiræas (prunifolia fl. pl.)	1 0	0 2 0
1	Sycamore	1 0	0 1 0
2	Silver Birch	1 0	0 2 0
1	Pendulous Birch	1 3	0 1 3
1	Lombardy Poplar.....	1 6	0 1 6
2	Laburnum	1 0	0 2 0
3	Abele Poplar.....	1 0	0 3 0
3	Roses.....	1 6	0 4 6
4	Climbing Roses	1 0	0 4 0
1	Honeysuckle.....	1 0	0 1 0
2	Clematis (Fair Rosamund, Jackmanii)	1 6	0 3 0
1	Japanese Honeysuckle.....	1 0	0 1 0
			£3 12 4

It will be observed that the design includes a conservatory, 18 feet 6 inches in length, by about 9 feet wide. The conservatory is furnished with two vines, a Buckland's Sweetwater and a Black Hambro, which vie with each other in the production of grapes, and bore between them last season (1885) nearly 2 cwt. of fine fruit.

Beyond the conservatory is a raised border edged irregularly with burrs. It is planted with climbers, which cast a grateful shade over the glass, and so temper the noon-day heat. About their stems flowers cluster thickly; then there is a wide gravelled path, then the lawn, and beyond that a dense shrubbery, containing a great variety of foliage, and effectually screening the fence and the adjoining premises. Upon the east another plantation hides the public road, while on the west the shrubbery is continued in diminishing density to an arch which spans the pathway leading to the garden in rear of the house. The arch is formed of Maple and Jackmanii clematis. It is not very sightly in winter, but becomes graceful from the time the leaves have developed; and in July and August, when the clematis is in blossom, few combinations produce a richer effect than the golden-green and deeply incised leaves of the Maple, overlaid and mingling with the foliage of the Jackmanii, and the grand purple flowers we all know so well.

In this little garden, complete in itself, though really it serves as an antechamber to a larger plot beyond (see ground-plan of 'Medley Garden'), are found the chief characteristics of every true garden—variety of foliage and outline, colour, sunshine and shadow. The shrubs and trees comprising the belt of foliage on the south are, as the list shows, inexpensive and commonplace. That they are not the less beautiful may be safely averred; but it is in their *entanglement* they excel, and present us with a picture on which the eye may look with pleasure, not wearying itself with a captious analysis of individual growths, but content with a result which humbly imitates Nature's incomparable handiwork.





MEDLEY GARDENS.

A VERY pleasing effect is produced by an intermingling of fruit and flowers. When there is ample room at disposal it is perhaps best to keep the shrubberies clear of fruit trees, and to banish Currant and Gooseberry bushes from the flower-borders ; but when the garden is too small to divide without disadvantage, we may venture upon a medley, and not only gain something in beauty, but lose little in regard to the quality or quantity of the fruit. A medley garden is in an especial degree a natural garden ; the wild Crab in the hedgerow claims many a strange companion, and the Bullace yields best when its branches are intermingled with those of the Hawthorn and Hazel.

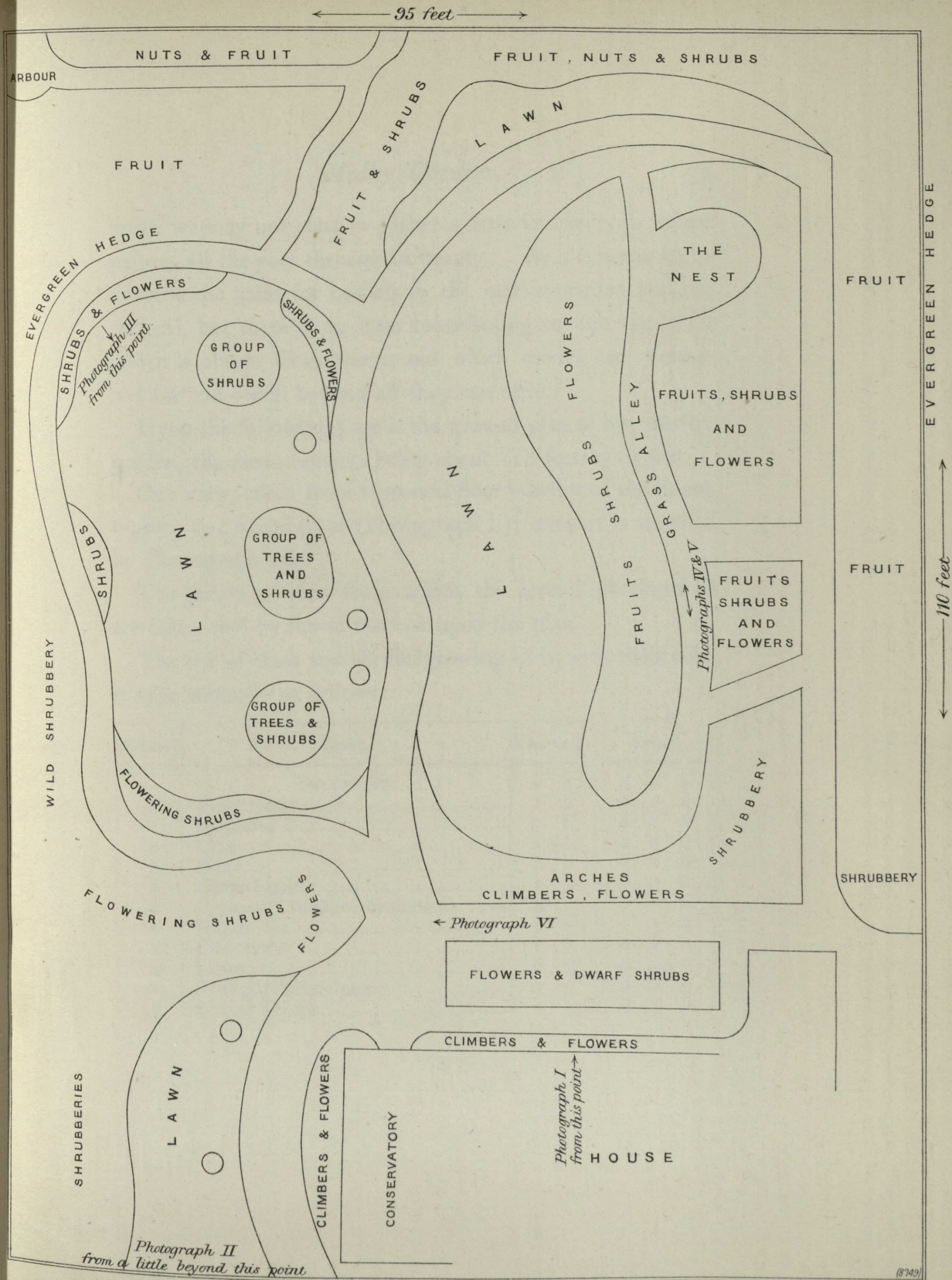
The eye is not indisposed to dwell with satisfaction upon a neat garden, where everything is in order, where the borders are well kept, and accuracy of habit and growth

appears to have been instilled into the very plants. But in striving after mere neatness much real beauty may be missed. The Box bordering, if there be one, may be trimmed to a nicety without offence ; the lawn may be spic and span, and its edges sharply defined and regular ; the gravel paths may be rolled until they have gained the surface of a billiard-table, but hereabouts mere tidiness should end. The tree-hacking and ribbon-planting, which reduce the life of a garden to uniformity and parallelism, appear to be at best but the rudiments of real gardening. They remind us of the straight lines required of us when we essayed our earliest efforts in drawing ; in themselves they possess no beauty whatever, in the completed picture they are absorbed and hidden. Rather would we take as the highest perfection of beauty such mingling of tree and climber, of fruit and flower, and gorgeous contrast of foliage as are depicted of the South American forests in the glowing pages of Kingsley and others. We cannot hope to approach the splendid prodigality of those tropical scenes any more than that our trees can be made to compare with the mammoth trunks of Mariposa, or our shrubberies with an Indian jungle. But while size will always enhance our sense of the grandeur of a scene, it ought not to be deemed capable of adding anything to its beauty ; and as size is relative and not

positive, what is most important is to obtain proportion and harmony.

In designing a medley garden we shall do well to remember the maxim already laid down—that the art we employ must not be too conspicuous. Yet anything approaching to confusion must be avoided. Nature does not always present us with mere quantity. She is fully capable of light and delicate touches. The obvious requirements of individual growths must not be overlooked, and, although nothing should seem to be constrained, everything should occupy the position best qualified to aid in its development. Thus, it would only be bungling to put an Apple tree, or Pear, or Plum, where, of necessity, it would become outgrown and dominated. But if a Pear tree rise from a cluster of slow-growing shrubs, and spread its branches above and beyond them, the effect is good, and the tree itself is none the worse for its company. Even when branches are interlaced a little, it does not follow that the crop of fruit is rendered inferior. There are fruits and fruits, and different varieties of the same fruit will attain perfection under totally different conditions. So it is with flowers and shrubs. The knowledge required is of their habits and wants, that we may dispose them in suitable positions.

Further, it may be asked whether, in dealing with limited





areas, we may not elect to gather a little less fruit, so we are gainers all the year through in beauty? By all means let us concede the palm for bushels to the market-garden and the orchard, but there is an item contributing to our sum-total which is absent from theirs, and which carries our yield—rod for rod—well beyond all they can offer.

Upon the following page is the ground-plan of our medley garden, the measurements being about 110 feet by 95 feet.

One view, taken from a ground-floor window of the house, is given as a frontispiece (Photograph I.); another is supplied by Photograph III.

The points of view from which the several photographs are taken will be found marked upon the plan.

The list of trees and shrubs growing in it, with their cost, is approximately as follows :

Number.	Name.	Cost each.		Totals.	
	DECIDUOUS.	s.	d.	£	s. d.
4	Silver Birch	1	0	0	4 0
1	Sycamore	1	6	0	1 6
2	Lime	1	6	0	3 0
1	Plane	1	6	0	1 6
2	Horsechestnut	1	6	0	3 0
2	Cypress (<i>Taxodium distichum</i>)	5	0	0	10 0
2	Maple	1	6	0	3 0
4	Laburnums	1	6	0	6 0
4	Lilacs.....	0	9	0	3 0
1	Syringa (<i>Philadelphus</i>).....	1	0	0	1 0
5	Scarlet Thorns	1	6	0	7 6

Number.	Name.	Cost each.	Totals.
DECIDUOUS (<i>continued</i>).		s. d.	£ s. d.
2	Golden Elder	1 0	0 2 0
2	Variegated Elder	0 9	0 1 6
2	Rosea Weiglia	1 6	0 3 0
8	Spiræas (of sorts)	1 0	0 8 0
6	Abele Poplar.....	1 6	0 9 0
2	Lombardy Poplar.....	2 0	0 4 0
4	Allspice	1 0	0 4 0
6	Sweetbriars	0 9	0 4 6
2	Willows	0 9	0 1 6
2	Flowering Broom	1 0	0 2 0
24	Roses (of sorts). (See List of Roses, p. 50.)	...	1 7 0
EVERGREEN.			
6	Yews (of sorts)	2 0	0 12 0
15	Thuja "	1 0	0 15 0
1	Thujopsis Borealis	2 6	0 2 6
3	Common Spruce	1 0	0 3 0
2	Blue Spruce	2 0	0 4 0
1	Silver Fir	2 0	0 2 0
1	Portugal Laurel	2 0	0 2 0
1	Sweet Bay	2 6	0 2 6
6	Phillyrea	1 0	0 6 0
2	Hemlock Spruce	2 6	0 5 0
5	Cupressus Lawsoniana.....	1 6	0 7 6
1	" Lambertiana	2 6	0 2 6
2	Scotch Fir.....	1 0	0 2 0
120	Laurels	...	2 8 0
2	Green Hollies	1 6	0 3 0
3	Cedrus Deodara	5 0	0 15 0
3	Irish Yews.....	1 6	0 4 6
30	Box (of sorts)	0 6	0 15 0
1	Large ditto	2 0	0 2 0
18	Aucuba Japonica	0 6	0 9 0
50	Rhododendron Ponticum	0 6	1 5 0
2	Rhododendron	2 6	0 5 0
1	Yucca	2 6	0 2 6





Number.	Name.	Cost each.	Totals.		
	EVERGREEN— <i>continued.</i>	s. d.	£	s.	d.
12	Evergreen Privet	0 9	0	9	0
12	Oval-leaved „	0 9	0	9	0
24	Mahonias	0 6	0	12	0
36	Dwarf Evergreen Shrubs	0 9	1	7	0
6	Heather.....	1 0	0	6	0
6	Euonymus.....	1 0	0	6	0
1	Magnolia Grandiflora	3 6	0	3	6
	Ivies, Ferns, Border Plants, Clematis (of kinds), Climbers, etc. say	...	5	0	0
	FRUIT TREES.				
14	Apples (of sorts). See list, page 51.	2 0	1	8	0
7	Pears „	2 6	0	17	6
3	Medlars.....	1 6	0	4	6
3	Plums	2 0	0	6	0
1	Damson	2 0	0	2	0
6	Cob Nuts	1 0	0	6	0
2	Red Filberts	1 6	0	3	0
18	Gooseberries.....	...	0	6	0
60	Currants (of sorts)	...	1	5	0
	Raspberry Canes }	...	1	0	0
	Strawberries }	...			
	Total for Trees, Shrubs and Perennial Plants.....		29	15	6
	To this must be added for Ballast, Gravel, Border Tiles, Burrs, etc.		18	0	0
	And for Labour—say two men for a month.....		10	0	0
	Total cost of laying out and planting		£57	15	6

The garden shown in the illustration was laid out with this advantage economically considered: the ground was meadow, and the original turf was good enough to be

retained for the lawns. When turf has to be bought and laid, an additional expenditure of several pounds will be incurred.

In this garden there is already an abundance of variety. The chief charms are to be found, perhaps, in the series of pictures presented from different points of view, and from the same points as the day advances; in the absence of formality, in the contrasts and harmonies of its foliage, and in the never-ceasing play of light and shade about its lawns and borders.

Further, it is to be recommended as a productive garden, and one where the fruit trees and bushes assist in the general embellishment. To suppose that fruit trees need to be cultivated for their yield alone is a mistake. In a medley garden they should add their quota to the beauty, and so justify their admission. The loveliness of an orchard in spring is proverbial, but the blossoms of Apple and Pear never show to so great an advantage as when they have the dark lustrous foliage of evergreen trees and shrubs near by. Nor do the charms of the fruit trees vanish when their yield is harvested. As we write this page, upon a fine November morning, we note that, though the Plums are mostly bare, the Apple trees retain much of their foliage unchanged; the leaves of the Pear vie in richness of crimson and orange with the

Spiræas; the Currants on the north border show like a thicket of bronze, and the Medlars are glorious in amber and gold.

It may be interesting to housewives to know that such a garden—a veritable medley—produced, in the fourth year of its existence, Red and Black Currants and Raspberries sufficient for innumerable pies and puddings, and for the manufacture of 90 lb. weight of *real* jam, besides a goodly show of Apples, some of them of prodigious size, Plums and Medlars, a few Pears, plenty of Gooseberries and Strawberries, and a sprinkling of Nuts. Two years later the yield was 5 bushels of Apples, 3 dozen of Pears, 12 gallons of Red Currants, 1 gallon of White do., 15 gallons Black do., 3 gallons of Gooseberries, 50 dozen of Medlars, 1 bushel of Plums, a large quantity of Raspberries and Strawberries, and a few Nuts; the latter appear capricious, and the Pears are not by any means in haste to begin bearing. Further, it will be pleasant to all of gardening bent to be told that from the first year the garden has been both fragrant and gay for nearly eight months of the twelve, and has supplied annually many scores of nosegays as gifts for friends, a daily garniture of the table, and several large consignments of blossoms for charitable institutions.

Climbing-plants should be freely introduced into a garden

of taste. Wild Vines, Clematis of all kinds, Roses, Honeysuckles, the Virginia Creepers, Japanese Honeysuckle, Cobæa scandens, Passion-flower; and for annuals, the Convolvulus, Canary Creeper, and Nasturtiums, with many others, may all be very easily cultivated, and their introduction to a garden will add charms that are unattainable in any other way.

Where there is a Grass alley—unhappily few modern gardens possess one—we have an exceptional opportunity for seeing climbing-plants at their best. In our medley garden is one (Photographs IV. and V.) where the over-arching branches are draped with the Clematis Jackmanii. No grander plant for the purpose is to be found. The rich blossoms lie in dense folds about the boughs, and hang festooned from tree to tree. Here the Canary Creeper decks their purple like delicate embroidery of gold; there they entwine in strange harmony of colouring about the creamy leaves of the Acer Negundo. Apples, Pears, and Plums are ripening above and beside us; Black Currant bushes lay their branches, heavy with fruit of enormous size, to rest among the Spiræas; and a vigorous Sweetbriar holds to its prickly bosom the promise of a Medlar's harvest; while beneath our feet there is the grassy way, flecked with tremulous shadows and bordered with plants of varied foliage,









evergreen shrubs, and blooming flowers. The Castor Oil plant, the Chilian Beet, with its massive bronze leaves and ribs of crimson and orange, groups of *Gladiolus brenchleyensis*, not yet come into bloom, plants of *Dracæna indivisa*, Cannas, Begonias, and Coleus, lent from the greenhouse for the summer, are conspicuous here, and in among them the stately Hollyhocks rising from a tangle of Ferns, and the great Golden Lilies of Japan. Truly a medley, but what a medley! That it offends the gardener may be taken for granted. What matter if it brings delight to less conventional minds?





GROUPING.

A LITTLE knowledge and some good taste displayed in the grouping of trees and shrubs are indispensable to the grace and beauty of a leafy garden. Just as some people are able to make cut flowers go farther and appear to so much greater advantage than other people, so in the arrangement of a garden the possession of good taste is all-important to prevent ugliness and waste. A few common trees and plants arranged by one gifted with this qualification will avail more than a wealth of choicer varieties 'put in' by row and measurement as they first come to hand.

A group of trees and plants is a most desirable object when space allows of it. It is best that the group should not be too dense, but rather that it should be graceful, and, in a measure, transparent, permitting the play of sunlight among the leaves, and presenting us with the charming

combination of green foliage and blue sky which in Nature produces the most beautiful of all effects.

To this end, the central and tallest trees of the group should be of thin and feathery habit, easily stirred by the summer air. The Acacia, the Common Birch, with its pendulous variety, and the Pendulous Willow are among the best which can be obtained for the purpose. Among more expensive trees, the deciduous Cypress is a beautiful subject for grouping, the only objection to it being that it is particularly stiff and inelegant when bare of leaves. The chief aim should be to introduce contrasts and harmonies of foliage. The central group may be of Silver and Pendulous Birches, Pines, White Poplars, and Acacias, flanked by Laburnums, Flowering Currants, Scarlet Thorns, Variegated Elder, Acer Negundo, Privets, Brooms, Weigela rosea, and some of the Spiræas; while, for outer garniture, take Aucubas, Rhododendrons, Variegated Box, Mahonias, and Euonymus. Evergreen trees may be grouped alone, with a result of great beauty. Spruce Firs, the Weymouth Pine, and Pinus Cembra may form the centre or background, with Hemlock Spruce (*Abies canadensis*), Phillyrea, Thujas, and Yews, green and golden; next with Aucubas, Box, and diminutive shrubs in the foreground. But if deciduous trees be altogether excluded, we lose the exquisite contrasts

at spring-time, when the sombre foliage of the Firs is relieved by the emerald and topaz of the boughs waking from their winter sleep.

A simple group, composed of three Silver Birches and three Cupressus Lawsoniana, surrounded by half-a-dozen dwarf Box trees, has been found effective. The total cost of such a group would be about ten shillings. In the spring-time the spaces between the shrubs are filled with Hyacinths and Narcissi, and in the summer with Cannas, Aralias, Chilian Beet, and other plants of striking foliage.

This group and another, larger and oval in form, are visible in Photograph III.

The oval group consists of the following trees and plants:

Name.		Cost each.	Totals.		
		s. d.	£	s.	d.
Centre :	1 Abele Poplar	1 6	0	1	6
Inner Flanks :	2 Scarlet Thorns	1 6	0	3	0
	6 Privet Ovalifolium.....	1 0	0	6	0
	2 Golden Elder.....	1 0	0	2	0
	2 Cupressus Lawsoniana	1 0	0	2	0
	2 Ribes	1 0	0	2	0
Outer Flanks :	2 Yellow Flowering Broom...	1 0	0	2	0
	6 Rhododendron Ponticum...	0 6	0	3	0
	3 Mahonia Aquifolia	0 6	0	1	6
Border :	12 Wallflowers, Clumps of				
	'Sheep's Ear,' Creeping				
	Jenny, Ivy, and Variegated				
	Grasses	...	0	2	6
			£1	5	6





Photograph VI. is the representation of a shady corner of the garden, round which a pathway winds under branches of Thorns, Maples, Weymouth Pines, Birches, Spruce Firs, Spiræas, Laburnums, etc. In the foreground is an entanglement of various shrubs and plants—Rhododendrons, Ferns, Dracenas, Aralias, Verbenas, Dahlias, Gladioli, Liliums, Pyrethrums, etc. Clumps of Pink and White Foxgloves, sprung from seed ripened in Dartmoor ravines, and which formed charming additions to the thicket, sending up stems of 7 feet in height, had just gone out of flower when the photograph was taken. The border is raised about a foot above the level of the path, and is edged with rough logs, which are hidden beneath a thick growth of dwarf Ivies and Echeverias, and masses of wild Strawberries, the latter being the offspring of roots brought from Devonshire lanes, and yielding year by year an abundant crop of fruit finer by far than the finest found about their native hedgerows. The arch on the left of this illustration is the same as that in Photograph II., but seen from a different standpoint.





ROCKERIES.

AN ordinary rockery is an outrage, and, when viewing it, we recall the lines in which Cowper fitly rebukes the scene :

‘ . . . Where Industry misspent,
But proud of his uncouth, ill-chosen task,
Has made a heaven on earth ; with suns and moons
Of close-rammed stones has charged the encumbered soil,
And fairly laid the zodiac in the dust.’

We have known gardens where flint-stones, broken earthenware, lustres from fractured chimney-ornaments, sea-shells, spar, and even gingerbeer-bottles and brown teapots have formed the incongruous items of huge erections dignified by the name of grottoes or rockeries, and which naturally bore considerable resemblance to unsifted dust-heaps.

On the other hand, numerous pleasing effects may be obtained from rockeries designed with judgment. An ordi-

nary rockery should be begun by piling up a few cartloads of garden mould in an irregular mound. A load of gas-works or brickfield burrs—the former are the more effective—should be then disposed tastefully about it, in imitation of natural rock, and when the earth has had time to settle, suitable shrubs and plants may be placed as taste recommends. It should be remembered that the rockery is not intended to supply beauty in itself, but to afford means for the display of beauty in leaf and flower. When this is borne in mind, a rockery may prove of much service. Besides affording opportunities for the cultivation of interesting and beautiful Alpine plants, many ordinary flowers will show to advantage upon its steep and broken sides.

A rockery tastefully planted with variegated Ivies, Ferns, and perhaps some Periwinkles, will present perennial beauty even though left without further embellishment ; but if the nooks and crannies be tenanted by well-chosen flower roots furnishing a succession of blooms, the result will be doubly pleasing. Hyacinths and Narcissus look well in such positions ; Wallflowers, Antirrhinums, and Anemones flourish there. If there be space enough, Phloxes and Pyrethrums may be added ; while Gladioli and Foxgloves are graceful and effective, and all sorts of Lilioms will show to advantage.



A FEW WORDS ABOUT LISTS.

A COMPREHENSIVE list or catalogue of trees and plants is a very formidable thing, and to many it would be at once confusing and useless. Yet the attempt to present a selection is not without its difficulties, for much must be left to individual taste, and something must be surrendered even to prejudice.

It is to be doubted if any tree or plant grown under suitable conditions is devoid of beauty. A great deal depends upon the position in which it is placed, and the company it has about it. A Black Poplar standing alone in a neglected plot of ground is a deplorable object. Even a Lombardy Poplar possesses little beauty if grown singly. Among other trees, both may take their places not only without offence, but with advantage to those contrasts of form and

foliage upon which leafy gardens depend so much for their charm and interest.

But, while opinions will differ as to the value of the following lists, and some readers, primed with more or less knowledge, may set about to discover what they will be pleased to consider faults of omission and commission, the writer need say no more than that the following lines contain nothing but that which has been proved to thrive under conditions similar to those treated of throughout these pages. They exhibit selections of trees and plants actually growing and prospering in suburban gardens, with no other advantage than that which comes of careful disposition and arrangement. Short as the lists may appear to those acquainted with ponderous botanical encyclopædias, or even with the seductive catalogues of nurserymen, they provide for much variety of foliage, a garden of flowers during three-quarters of the year, a harvest of familiar fruits, and, what is not a little important, they suggest only reasonable demands upon the pocket.





LISTS.

List of Sixteen Inexpensive Ornamental Deciduous Trees.—Mountain Ash, Pendulous Birch, Silver Birch, Acacia (Pseudacacia), Acacia rosea, Laburnum, Lombardy Poplar, Abele Poplar, European Lime, Chestnut, Sweet Almond, Purple Beech, Deciduous Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), Bird Cherry, *Catalpa syringæfolia*, Flowering Ash.

List of Thirteen Evergreen Trees.—Spruce Fir, Weymouth Pine, *Cedrus Deodara*, *Arbutus Unedo*, *Thujopsis borealis*, Blue Spruce, Wellingtonia, Evergreen Oak, *Pinus Pinaster*, *Pinus austriaca*, *Cupressus Lambertiana*, *Picea Balsamea*, *Picea nobilis*.

List of Eighteen Evergreen Shrubs.—Thujas (of kinds), Portugal Laurel, *Laurustinus*, common Laurel, Hemlock Spruce (*Abies canadensis*), *Cupressus Lawsoniana*, Rhododendrons, Yews (of kinds), Hollies (of kinds), Box (of

kinds), Euonymus, Phillyrea, Mahonias (Bealii and aquifolia), Sweet Bay, Aucuba japonica, Berberis Darwinii, Irish Yew (fastigiata), Cryptomeria elegans.

List of Eighteen Deciduous Shrubs.—Lilacs, Guelder Rose, Variegated Elder, Golden Elder, Privet, Oval-leaved (may be almost classed among the Evergreens), Privet (common), Flowering Currants (of kinds), Scarlet Thorn, Syringa (Philadelphus), Barberry, Weigela rosea, Broom, Spiræa bella, Spiræa prunifolia fl.-pl., Sweet Briar, Berberis (purple-leaved), Deutzia gracilis, Calycanthus.

List of Perennial Climbers for Walls, Trellis, and Trees.—For walls: Magnolia grandiflora, Euonymus (flavescens), Pyracantha, Wistaria, Jasmines, Ivies, Pyrus japonica, Ampelopsis Veitchii, Vines, Cotoneaster, Roses (of kinds). For trellis and trees: Vines, Clematis Jackmanii, C. rubella, C. Standishii, C. lanuginosa, small sweet-scented Clematis, Passion Flower, Honeysuckles, Cobæa scandens (roots need to be protected in winter), Virginian Creeper, Japanese Honeysuckle, Roses.

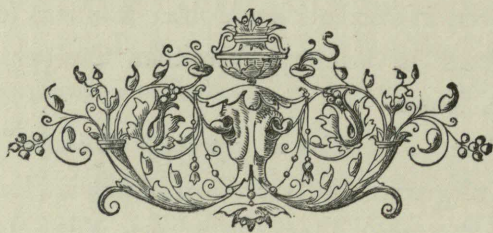
List of Trees and Shrubs especially suitable for Small Gardens.—Evergreen: Phillyrea, Box, Mahonias, Laurustinus, Dwarf Spruce (of sorts), Hemlock Spruce, Yews, Euonymus, Thuja, Rhododendrons, Lavender, Rosemary, Irish Yew. Deciduous: Acacia, Silver Birch, Pendulous Birch, Almond,

Golden Elder, Oval-leaved Privet, common Privet, Broom, Spiræas, Sweet Briar, Azaleas, Cotoneaster, Southernwood.

List of Eight Hardy Roses.—Gloire de Dijon (fawn-yellow), Edouard Morren (red), John Hopper (rosy crimson), Mrs. Fisher Holmes (deep crimson), Marie Baumann (red), Coquette des Blancs (white), Lord Clyde (rich crimson), La France (pale peach, with rosy centre).

List of Shrubs and Plants suited for growing under Trees and in Shady Places.—Snowberry, common Privet, Laurels, Mahonia aquifolia, M. Bealii, Box, Brambles, Ivies.

List of Hardy Flowering Plants suitable for Shrubberies and shady Places.—Anemones, Primroses, Periwinkles, Ranunculus, Forget-me-not, Violets, Harebells, Lilies of the Valley, Scillas, Narcissi, Wild-strawberries.





LIST OF FRUIT TREES.

Apples.—Blenheim Orange (dessert), Ribston Pippin (d.), Lord Suffield (cooking), Golden Pippin (d.), Hawthornden (c.), Keswick Codlin (c.), Devonshire Quarrenden (d.), Wellington Pippin (d. and c.).

Pears.—Williams' Bon Chrétien, Autumn Bergamot, Marie Louise (good for wall).

Plums.—Victoria (red), Orleans (purple), Royal Hâtive (for wall, purple), Gisborne's (yellow), Greengage.

Currants.—Red Champagne, Red Dutch, White Dutch, Lee's Prolific (black), Black Neapolitan.

Gooseberries.—Greengage, Crown Bob, Red Warrington, Smuggler.

Strawberries.—British Queen, Dr. Hogg, Sir J. Paxton.

Raspberries.—Fastolf, Antwerp White, October Red.

Grapes.—Buckland's Sweetwater, Black Hambro'.

Damson.—Crittenden's.

Nuts.—Cosford, Red Filbert, Kentish Cob.



LIST OF VARIOUS FLOWERING PLANTS.

To ensure a succession of blossoms from February to November, and, in mild winters, almost throughout the year:

Name.	Colour.	Duration.	Time of Flowering.	Time to Plant.
Snowdrops	White	Perenn.	Feb., March	Sept. to Nov.
Crocuses	Various	"	"	"
Scillas	Blue	"	"	"
Hyacinths	Various	"	March, April	"
Narcissi	Mostly white and yellow	"	March, April, May	"
Anemones	Various	"	"	"
Primroses	Pale yellow	"	"	"
Ranunculi	Yellow & white	"	"	"
Periwinkles	Blue	"	May, June	Oct. to March
Foxgloves	Pink and white	Biennial	May, "	Oct. "
Iris	Various	Perenn.	May, June, July	Oct. to Dec.
Ixias.....	Various	"	May, June	November
Wallflowers	Brown, yellow, and striped	Biennial	April, May, and all the year round, at times	Oct. to Feb.

List of Various Flowering Plants.

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Name.	Colour.	Duration.	Time of Flowering.	Time to Plant.
Columbines	Various	Perenn.	May, June	Spring
Polyanthus	"	"	April, May	Oct. to March
Campanulas.....	Light blue	"	June	"
Primulas	Purple	"	May	"
Delphinium.....	Various shades of blue	"	May, June	"
Clematis	Various	"	May to Sept.	"
Fuchsias	Crimson	"	June, July	"
Sweet Williams	Various	"	"	Sow seed in May, plant out in autumn
Marguerites	Various	"	June to Nov.	Spring
Antirrhinum ...	"	Biennial	June to Nov.	"
Carnations	"	Perenn.	July	"
Pinks	"	"	June	"
Gladioli	"	"	June, July, Aug	February
Liliums (of kinds)	"	"	May to Nov.	Oct. to Feb.
Pyrethrums	Various	Perenn.	April to Sept.	Oct. to April
Pansies	"	"	May to Sept.	"
Alyssums	White, lavender	"	May	"
Geum (coccineum)	Crimson	"	June, July	"
Perennial Sun-flower	Yellow	"	July, Aug.	"
Mimulus	"	"	June, July, Aug	"
Pæonies	Various	"	May, June*	"
Phloxes	"	"	July, August, September	"
Tigridia (Tiger-flower, Pavonia)	Scarlet and crimson	"	July, August	"
Lychnis	Scarlet	"	July	"
Penstemons	Various	"	July, August, Sept., Oct.	"

* May not bloom the first year.

Name.	Colour.	Duration.	Time of Flowering.	Time to Plant.
Hollyhocks	Various	Perenn.	July to Nov.	Oct. to April, or may be raised from seed
Dahlias	"	"	July, August, Sept., Oct.*	May
Michaelmas Daisies.....	Lavender	"	Sept., Oct.	
Chrysanthemums	Various	"	Oct., Nov.	Spring
Pompones	"	"	"	"
Jessamine Nudi- florum	Yellow	"	Dec., Jan.	Oct. to March

* Tubers require to be lifted after first frost.

Geraniums, Lobelias, Calceolarias, and other 'bedding-out' plants, together with such annuals as may be chosen (see next paragraph), may be disposed informally about the borders, and will be seen to far better advantage in company than when planted formally and alone.





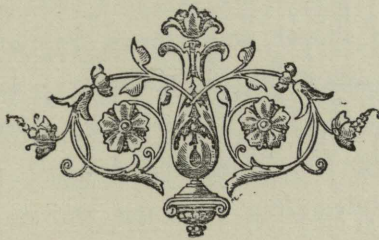
ANNUALS.

THE rage for 'annuals' is distinct and individual. Not a few people are found who, having limited their gardening operations to sowing the contents of a number of ill-selected packets of seed, take to wondering that the result is not more gratifying and substantial. In general, the sowing of annuals may rank with that horticultural weakness of childhood—the raising of mustard and cress. The pleasure of sowing is exquisite, the speedy germination—'coming up' we ought to say—is delightful, but, alas! the harvest is fleeting. A day's inopportune rain, a passing indisposition, or twenty-four hours' forgetfulness of our hobby, and the crop has already become bloated and unlovely. In the same way, many annuals bloom unawares, or, it may be, they blaze forth for a week, and are seen no more except as unsightly litter. Undoubtedly, the question is one for individual taste, but for small suburban gardens, where birds and slugs abound, and the neighbours' cats have right of way, the list of annuals—so tremendous in its entirety—may well be limited.

Having said this much, it is the more grateful to pay tribute to the exceeding beauty of a certain few plants of the class, and to add that the following will well repay cultivation in every garden which is reached by a sufficiency of sunshine. They are especially selected on account of their long duration in blossom, and of the absence of that flimsiness which distinguishes so many annuals:

Name.	Duration of Blooming Period.	Cultivation.
Zinnias.....	July to Oct.	Sow in pans in March, protect from frost, and plant out during third week in May; or, to save trouble, buy seedlings of any good nurseryman, and plant where they are to bloom.
Asters	Aug., Sept.	" " " or may be
Chrysanthemums .	July to Oct.	" " sown in any open ground.
Helichrysum (Ever-lasting).....	"	" " or may be sown in open ground.
Stocks (Ten-week)	June, July	Sow in pans in February and March, and plant out in April, or sow in open border.
Phlox Drummondi	July to Sept.	Sow in open border in April.
Sweet Peas	June, July	Sow in open ground, at fortnightly intervals, during March and April.
Mignonette	June to Oct.	" "
Nasturtiums (Dwarf and Climbing)...	July to Sept.	Sow in open ground in March and April.
Larkspurs	July, Aug.	" " " or in pans,
Canary Creeper ...	July, Aug., Sept.	" " and plant out.

To this list may be added, by those who have space for more, Calliopsis, French and African Marigolds, Poppies, and Sunflowers. The Marigolds and Calliopsis flower freely and long ; the Poppies are fleeting, but particularly brilliant while they last.





BULBOUS FLOWERING PLANTS.

THESE plants well deserve a special mention, for to none is the flower-garden more indebted for embellishment. Many examples of this group combine in a rare degree beauty of form, delicacy of colour, and sweetest fragrance. Beginning with the lowly Snowdrop in February, followed by the brilliant Crocus and Daffodil in March, these in their turn succeeded by the Hyacinth, the Jonquil, the Tulip, the Anemone, the Polyanthus Narcissus, and most beautiful of all the *N. poeticus* in April and May, we find the long procession continued through the summer and well into autumn by the *Ixia*, the *Iris*, the *Gladiolus*, and the *Lilium*. They range through all gradations of size and colour, and are remarkable alike for flowers of purest white, as for blossoms the most gorgeous and magnificent which deck our garden borders.

A modest collection is shown in the following list. All

the sorts named will flower freely in the open ground, and, if ordinary care be used in digging, the plants will reappear year after year. The Gladioli will require lifting. This should be done in October, and the bulbs may be replanted in February. Of the others, some are apt to deteriorate after a two or three years' flowering, and require renewal. A good plan is to grow the fresh plants in the more conspicuous places, and, after they have flowered, to transfer them to the shrubberies and side-borders. The Liliums, however, are best left undisturbed. Snowdrops ; Crocus—Large Yellow ; Sir Walter Scott, striped ; Queen Victoria, white ; Cloth of Gold, yellow and black ; David Rizzio, purple ; Princess Alexandra, lilac ; Prince Albert, blue ; Scillas (for shrubberies) ; old double Daffodil ; Narcissus biflorus ; N. incomparabilis ; N. odorus fl.-pl ; N. polyanthus ; Bazleman Major ; Grand Monarque ; States-General ; N. poeticus ; Jonquils ; Tulips—Molière, Duc de Brabant, Duc Van Thol, Rosa Mundi, Rex Rubrorum, Titian, Parrot ; Hyacinths, red—Amy, Robert Steiger, L'Ami du Cœur ; white—Grand Vainqueur, Madame de Staël ; blue—Charles Dickens, Emicus, Argus ; yellow—La Citronière, Alida Jacoba ; Gladiolus Colvillei ; G. C. alba ; G. brenchleyensis ; Tigridia pavonia ; Iris ; Lilium auratum ; L. longiflorum ; L. lancifolium rubrum ; L. lanc. roseum ; L. lanc. album ; L. tigrinum ; L. umbellatum ; L. Croceum, L. Candidum.



ARRANGEMENT OF A FLOWER BORDER.

THE following may be suggested as an arrangement for a central flower-border, such as is not uncommon in gardens of oblong shape and no great width. It supposes an open border 10 to 14 feet in width; length anything beyond 20 feet. The border is divided into a centre, and right and left wings, the latter being subdivided into three sections each, and an edging. Where there is a hedge or wall the tallest plants should be, of course, placed next it; and in that case the 'outer,' 'intermediate,' and 'inner' sections of, say, the right wing will be omitted, or, if the space be sufficient, double sections may be introduced into the remaining wing. 'Bedding-out' plants may be added at discretion.

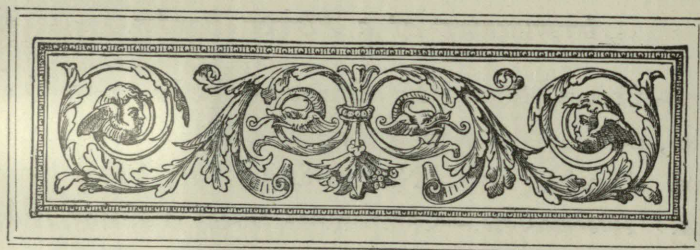
RIGHT WING.—*Edging*.—Silver Grass, Thrift, Alyssum, 'Sheep's Ear,' Variegated Thyme, Musk—not planted separately in one long straight line, but mingled tastefully.

Outer.—Crocus, Snowdrop, Primulas, Pinks, Carnations, Pansies, Daisies, Mimulus, Polyanthus, Hyacinths, Narcissi, Tulips. *Annuals:* Dwarf Nasturtiums, Asters, Phlox Drummondii. *Intermediate.*—Campanulas, Sweet Williams, Antirrhinums, Gladioli, Iris, Columbines, Geums, Wallflowers. *Annuals:* Zinnias, Summer Chrysanthemums, Stocks, Larkspurs, Mignonette. *Inner.*—Liliums, Delphiniums, Phloxes, Foxgloves, Chrysanthemums, Cannas, Pyrethrums, Pentstemons, Marguerites, Lychnis, Fuchsias. *Annuals:* Helichrysum, Sweet Peas.

CENTRE.—It will add to the solidity of the border to have a few dwarf evergreen plants here ; Irish Yews, Rosemary, Lavenders, Euonymus, Box, Rhododendrons, with strong clumps of Hollyhocks, Pæonies, Perennial Sunflowers, and Dahlias.

LEFT WING.—*Inner.*—Repeat as above. *Intermediate.*—Repeat as above. *Outer.*—Repeat as above. *Edging.*—Repeat as above.





SUGGESTED PLANS.

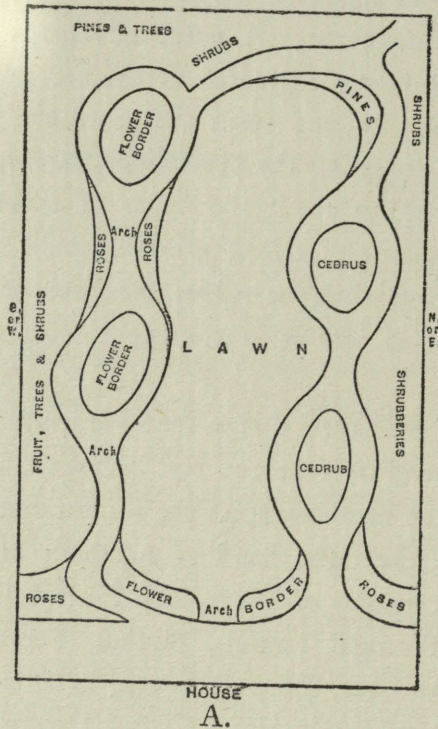
To those about to fashion small pieces of ground into gardens, one or another of the following plans may offer an acceptable proposal. They are designed for plots such as are commonly to be found about suburban houses, and they may be modified easily to suit particular circumstances. Each contemplates the solidity which in our changeable climate appears desirable; each is suggestive of perennial life, and of the beauty which endures independently of summer's capricious smiles.

When examining the tracings, do not let the reader suppose that any sort of beauty is claimed for the plans in themselves—a mistake not too ludicrous to be made occasionally. To judge them rightly, something of the earlier matter must have been digested and approved, and the mind must be able to foretell the features the maturing plantations will present.

In order that a garden may be satisfactorily arranged, its aspect must be first considered, and this is especially necessary when the plot is of small dimensions. A requisite for every garden is plenty of sunshine, and protection from keen winds is scarcely less important. A great advantage is therefore gained when the house is situated at the northern or eastern extremity of the plot, and when the south and west aspects are open. In designing the plantations, care must be taken to assist in bringing about the latter of these conditions. The trees and shrubs of tallest growth should be placed on the north and east, while the hedges and shrubberies elsewhere should be kept as low as is consistent with comfort and privacy.

In plan 'A' we have a design for a garden measuring, say, 75 feet by 40, and if it be 100 feet in length, all the better. It is assumed the house occupies the eastern extremity. The plantations on the right hand or northern border may be composed of a medley of Weymouth Pines, Austrian Pines, Spruce Firs, Portugal Laurels, Birches, Thorns, etc., with Box, Privet, Aucubas, Euonymus, etc., in front. The two oval borders may contain each a *Cedrus Deodara*, which will show in agreeable contrast to the more perpendicular growths in rear. A group of Pines or other evergreen trees may stand in the north-west corner, screening the way to the

back gate, and behind them should be a close thicket of shrubs, with more trees if the prospect be not agreeable. The south border may contain fruit trees and shrubs, so



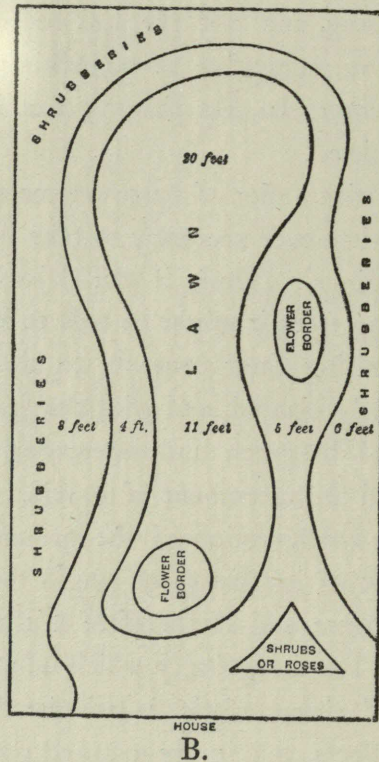
arranged as not to interfere with the flowers in the borders and the clusters of dwarf roses. Other rose plantations and flowerbeds occupy positions near the supposed

windows, and there are arches which may be covered with flowering plants. The lawn is obtrusively irregular, and upon paper appears shapeless; but in the actual garden the effect will be pleasing, and not the less because at several points it will prove suggestive of something beyond and unseen. If the ground be less than 75 feet in length, one *Cedrus* may be omitted.

Plan 'B' deals with a plot of narrower measurement, and it becomes more than ever necessary to take into consideration the surroundings. Thus, if the adjacent enclosures contain tall growing trees, it might be well to keep the plantations low by limiting their contents to shrubs. Such a garden if judiciously planted, and with the grass and paths well tended, would be green and interesting all the year, even though denied the adornment of flowers.

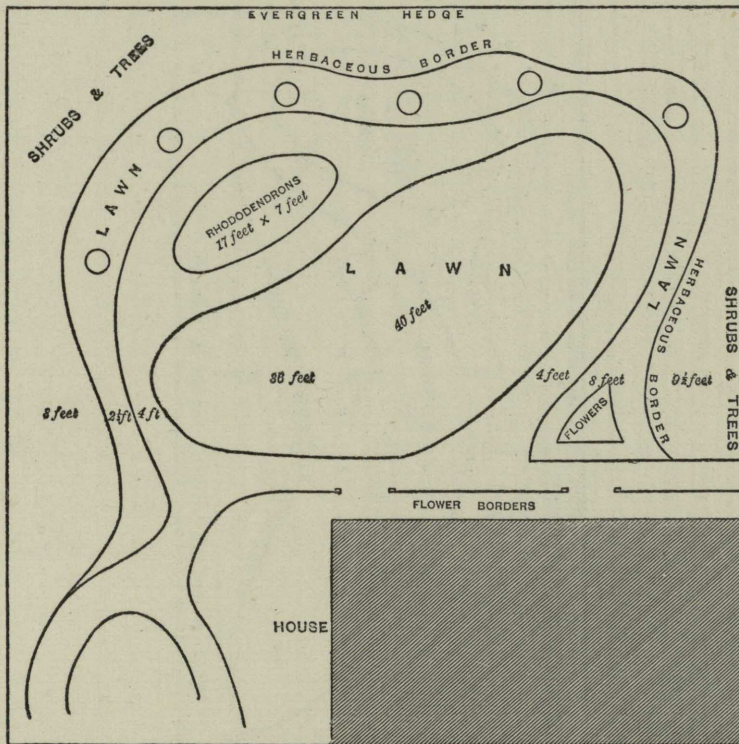
In plan 'C' the configuration of the ground is changed, and we have a plot of less depth or length than width. It shows a side enclosure, and is therefore suitable for a semi-detached house. The irregularity which some people may consider the chief characteristic is calculated to produce several desirable effects, and in the matured garden it would disappear, or perhaps become known under a different name. The little circular beds might be omitted if desired, and with advantage, unless they are to be tastefully treated.

Probably *Liliums* would be the best summer occupants of these portions, and care would ensure a long continued succession of blossoms.



Plan 'D' contemplates an oblong plot, with a curving pathway, flanked by lawns, and surrounding a group of trees and shrubs at the further extremity. It is assumed

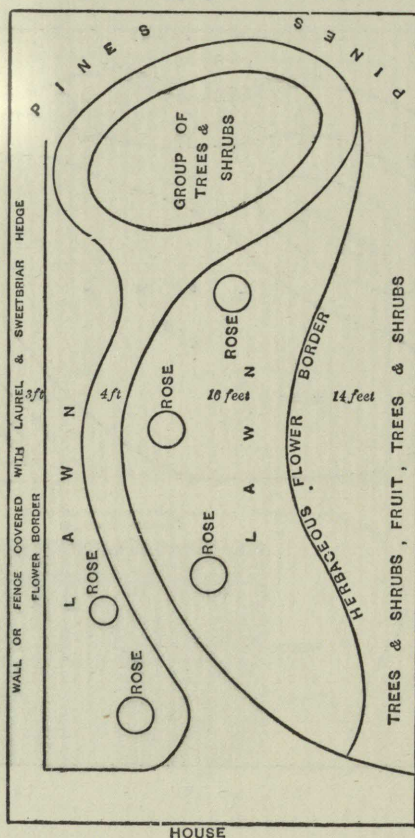
that the prospect is one better hidden than displayed. The background should be therefore filled in with a dark



C.

mass of, say, Pines, Spruce, and Yew. The central group of trees should be made to contrast strongly with the sombre screen in rear, and should contain trees evergreen and de-

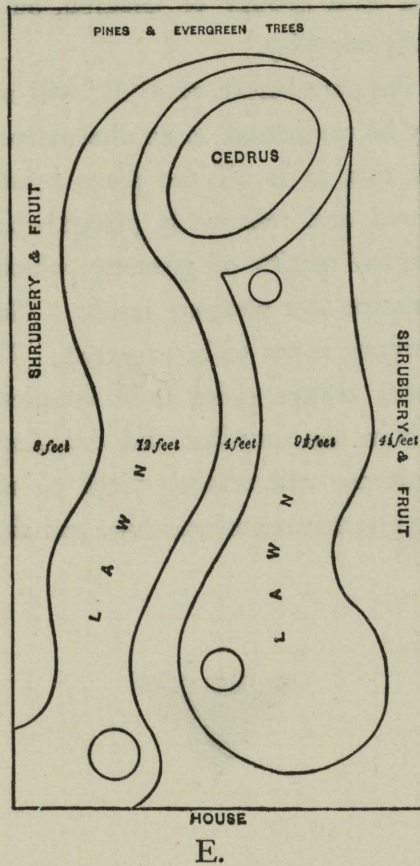
ciduous. A *Picea glauca* would show well in this position, but it is expensive; *Thuja borealis* would do, with



D.

Abies Canadensis, Golden Elder, White Maple, Laburnum, Thorn, and Pendulous Birch. On the right or left flank of

this garden, according to aspect, might be planted apples, pears, and plums, intermingled with flowering and other

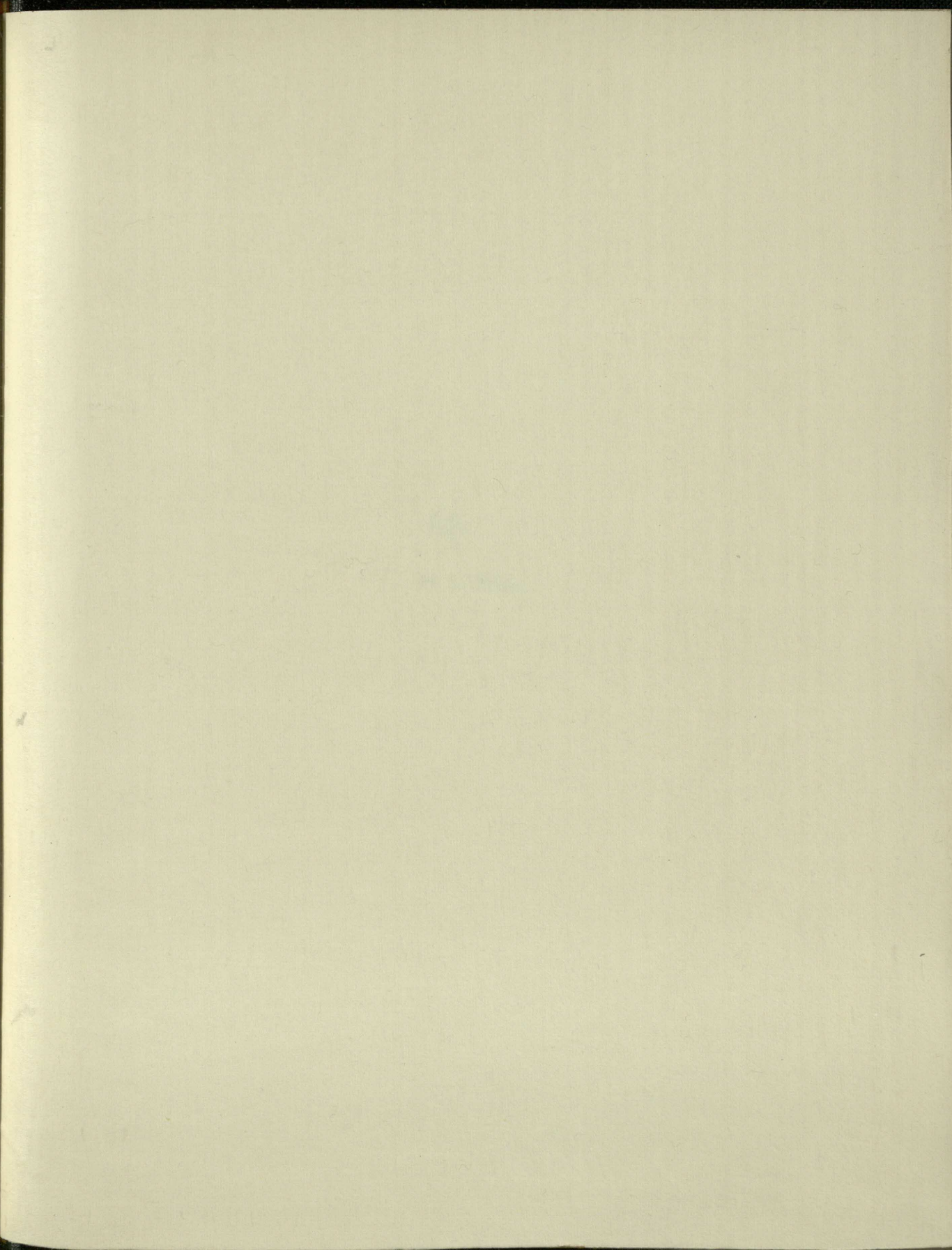


shrubs, and fronted by a border of herbaceous plants. Bush-roses would look far better than standards in the circular

beds ; but if standards are preferred, something ought to be planted to cover their bare stems. A French fashion is to surround them with groups of Gladioli, but perhaps it is best to avoid the necessity.

After what has gone before, plan 'E' will need little comment. It may be considered as an alternative to the design preceding. In this, as in all the plans submitted, straight lines are eschewed, and reliance is placed upon the curves, flowing figures, and wealth of greenery, which to the writer appear indispensable to a pleasing result. That the designs will satisfy everyone is not to be expected. The formal and the artificial will always claim their votaries, while those whose delight is in the unveiled and dazzling splendour of the modern parterre will scarcely yield to methods which aim at securing alternations of sunshine and shadow.





BM.

31. 5. 1966.

